

4VAC15-40-275. Game: In General: Sale of furbearer pelts, carcasses, and parts

Summary:

The proposal is to (i) authorize the sale of coyote and nutria pelts, carcasses, and parts under conditions currently authorized for species legally defined as “fur-bearing animals”; and (ii) eliminate unnecessary text in Part 3 of the regulation.

Proposed language of amendment:

1 **4 VAC 15-40-275. Game: In general: Sale of furbearer, coyote, and nutria pelts, carcasses, and**
2 **parts.**

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4 It shall be unlawful to buy, sell, barter, traffic or trade in, bargain for, or solicit for purchase raw pelts and
5 unskinned carcasses of fur-bearing animals defined in § 29.1-100 of the Code of Virginia, coyotes, and
6 nutria without having first obtained a fur dealer permit in accordance with §§ 29.1-400 through 29.1-407
7 of the Code of Virginia, except that a permit shall not be required of:

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9 1. Any hunter or trapper, or any person lawfully engaged in the business of fur farming, to sell or
10 dispose of legally taken or possessed raw pelts and unskinned carcasses of fur-bearing animals at any
11 time.

12
13 2. Any person to purchase legally taken or possessed raw pelts or unskinned carcasses of fur-bearing
14 animals, coyotes, and nutria at any time if the pelts are to be tanned or used in taxidermy mounts for
15 personal use and not for resale, trade, or other commercial purposes.

16
17 3. Any person to buy or sell at any time pelts that are not defined as being raw, skinned carcasses,
18 ~~such as taxidermy mounts, or any other parts of legally taken and possessed fur-bearing animals defined~~
19 ~~in § 29.1-100 of the Code of Virginia, coyotes, and nutria.~~ Such parts shall include skulls, teeth, claws,
20 bones, glands, and secretions. For the purposes of this section, “raw pelt” shall be defined as any pelt
21 with its hair or fur intact that has not been tanned, cured, chemically preserved, or converted to any usable
22 form beyond initial cleaning, stretching, and drying. Salt-cured and sun-cured pelts shall be considered
23 raw pelts.

Rationale:

Although trapped for fur, coyotes and nutria are legally defined as nuisance species and not fur-bearing animals in § 29.1-100 of the Code of Virginia. As a result, the sale of tanned pelts, carcasses, and parts is currently not authorized for these species. This proposal is a housekeeping measure that adds coyotes and nutria to the proposal adopted by the Board in 2017.